

## Appendix A

### PROJECT RESOURCE MAPS

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

2 The resource maps in this appendix present a profile of the existing setting of the 220-mile project area. These maps  
3 are intended to provide the reader with the geographic references for the material presented in Affected Environment  
4 and Impact sections of the DEIS.

5 The information in the resource maps is based on a variety of project documents, agency references, other mapping  
6 sources, and field surveys. The source for each particular layer is noted below.

7 Because of the 1:100,000 scale of the resource maps, the locations of project features and existing resources should  
8 be considered approximate and should not be used for quantification. A ruler enclosed with the resource maps provides  
9 a guide to the abbreviations used and a mileage ruler.

#### 10 TOPOGRAPHIC BASE

11 The topographic base for the project resource maps are the 1:100,000 scale USGS 30 X 60 minute quadrangle sheets  
12 for the project area as follows: *Oscura Mtns, New Mexico* (1982); *Davis Dam, Arizona - Nevada -California* (1982);  
13 *Ivanpah, Nevada - California* (1985); *Soda Mountains, California* (1993); *Newberry Springs, California* (1977,  
14 photoinspected 1989); *Victorville, California* (1982); *Cuddeback Lake, California* (1976, photoinspected 1989); and  
15 *Tehachapi, California* (1978, photo-inspected 1990).

#### 16 PROJECT FEATURES

##### 17 Coaxial Cable Route, Repeater Huts, Manholes, and Marker Posts

18 The coaxial cable route within the project area is based on the route shown on the most recent AT&T 'as-built' 1:24,000  
19 scale maps of the P140 coaxial system (*Plans for Construction, Placing Access Vaults for L3 to Digital P140 Conversion,*  
20 *Socorro to Quemado, New Mexico; Colorado River to Baker California; and Baker, California to Mojave, Calif,*  
21 *Phase IIA, Final Issue, January, 1990*). The locations of permanent structures such as repeater huts, manholes and  
22 marker posts were also taken from this source. The approximate location of each repeater hut and manhole is indicated  
23 on the resource maps. Due to the scale, only every tenth marker post is shown.

##### 24 Project Mileage

25 Five-mile increments are shown on the resource maps. The total project mileage is approximately 220 miles with  
26 a New Mexico segment of 7.7 miles, a California segment of 205.1 miles and a Nevada segment of 7.4 miles. The  
27 distance between marker posts was determined based on measurements of the project route conducted by David Evans  
28 & Associates (DEA) in June of 1996 (*P140 Marker Post Inventory, DEA, 7/17/96*). These distances were then converted  
29 to a mileage scheme for use in the DEIS. All project features are identified based on their source map and approximate  
30 locations down to a tenth of a mile. Precision of the placement of project features depends on the scale of the individual  
31 source maps.

##### 32 Parallel Fiber Optic Segments

33 The resource maps show those sections where the P140 coaxial cable is parallel to another AT&T fiber optic cable.  
34 These segments are based on those portions identified by DEA in the marker post field measurements (DEA, 1996).  
35 None of these segments are proposed for removal in any of the action alternatives to avoid potential service disruption.

## 1 RESOURCE LAYERS

2 The information on the resource maps has been organized into separate layers of data tied to the subject areas discussed  
3 in the main text. Resource layers include the following: land management districts, land ownership, special designated  
4 areas, sensitive species/habitats, general vegetative communities, water resources, road and utility crossings, and  
5 the access corridor.

### 6 Management District

7 Management districts were identified based on the following documents: *Socorro Resource Management Plan*, BLM  
8 Socorro Resource Area, New Mexico, August, 1989; *Supplement to the Draft Stateline Resource Management Plan*  
9 *and Environmental Impact Statement*, BLM Las Vegas District, May, 1994; *The California Desert Protection Act*  
10 *of 1994 (Public Law 103-422)*, 16 USC 410aaa, October 31, 1994 and legislative maps; and the *California Desert*  
11 *Conservation Area Plan* (BLM, 1980) and subsequent amendments (BLM, 1981 -1990). Management districts were  
12 also cross-checked with land ownership information developed by Land Services, Inc. (LSI) which was incorporated  
13 in the marker post survey report (DEA, 1996).

### 14 Land Ownership

15 Land ownership is based on the real estate information developed by LSI which was incorporated in the marker post  
16 survey report (DEA, 1996). Ownership is profiled on a marker post basis rather than on legal descriptions; therefore,  
17 there may be discrepancies between the actual areas of ownership and those shown on the resource maps.

### 18 Special Designated Areas

19 Special designated areas along the project route include BLM Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs),  
20 BLM Special Management Areas (SMAs), Wilderness Areas, Wilderness Study Areas, National Natural Landmarks,  
21 and National Historic Trails. Sources include: *Socorro Resource Management Plan*, BLM Socorro Resource Area,  
22 New Mexico, August, 1989; *Supplement to the Draft Stateline Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact*  
23 *Statement*, BLM Las Vegas District, May, 1994; *The California Desert Protection Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-422)*,  
24 16 USC 410aaa, October 31, 1994 and legislative maps; *California Desert Conservation Area Plan* (BLM 1980,  
25 1981..1988); *BLM New Wilderness Areas, National Parks and Preserves* (BLM, June 1995); *Draft State of California*  
26 *Wilderness Status Map (with PL-103-433, California Desert Protection Act of 1994)*, BLM, January 1995; *Desert*  
27 *Access Guides (Needles, New York Mountains, Irwin, Johnson Valley; Stoddard Valley; Red Mountain; and Jawbone/Dove*  
28 *Spring)*, BLM, May 1988. Wilderness boundaries were updated with information from markup maps being prepared  
29 by Dennis Schramm at Mojave National Preserve. The location of these areas is approximate only and has not been  
30 field surveyed. Areas directly adjacent to the project route in addition to those areas crossed by project route have  
31 been identified on the resource layer.

### 32 Sensitive Species/Habitats

33 Several different layers of information area presented concerning sensitive species and habitats.  
34 The **tortoise activity layer** shows those areas identified with visible evidence or other indication of desert tortoise  
35 activity during the biological surveys conducted by E & E in April, 1996 (E & E, 1996). This layer only indicates  
36 those areas with observed activity at the time of the field survey.

37 The **desert tortoise habitat categories layer** identifies those habitat areas identified in the *1989/1990 California*  
38 *Desert Conservation Area Plan Amendments, Decision Record*, BLM, June 1993. Amendment 19 in the 1989/1990  
39 revision of the CDCA Plan established desert tortoise management categories on public land within the CDCA. This  
40 delineation was mandated by an earlier plan (*Desert Tortoise Habitat Management on the Public Land: A Rangeland*

Plan, BLM, 1988). Although categories are only applicable to public land, this resource layer is not differentiated between public and private land. The habitat category layer was created based on a 1:100,000 ArcInfo GIS file overlay provided by the BLM. The Affected Environment section has a figure that shows BLM-category habitat in the vicinity of the project in the CDCA.

The **desert tortoise critical habitat layer** identifies those areas designated in 1994 by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) as critical habitat for the desert tortoise. The source of this layer is the legal description of critical habitat units in the USFWS recovery plan for the tortoise (*Desert Tortoise Recovery Plan (Mojave Population)* (Desert Tortoise Recovery Team, Regions 1,2, and 6 USFWS, June 1994). The Affected Environment section contains a figure that shows the critical habitat areas in the Mojave National Preserve and Nevada.

The **sensitive species layer** includes those areas identified with sensitive plant or animal species or indications of potential presence of sensitive species observed during field surveys conducted by E & E and its subcontractor, Mark Bagley Associates, in April of 1996 and additional surveys conducted by Mark Bagley in the spring of 1997 (E & E 1996; Bagley 1996, 1997). These species include sensitive animal species such as the Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) and sensitive plants such as the Mojave indigo bush (*Psoralea arborescens* var. *arborescens*). Areas of desert tortoise activity are identified separately as noted above. Since the sensitive species layer is based on only two field surveys, it is not intended to indicate where sensitive species may actually be present or absent at some future date.

## General Vegetative Communities

Vegetation layers are based on field surveys conducted by E & E's subcontractor, Mark Bagley, Associates, during April, 1996 (Bagley, 1996). The **woodland community layer** profiles those portions of the cable route where the general vegetative community contains noticeable woodland association such as Joshua Tree Woodlands and Utah Juniper. The **understory community layer** profiles the general vegetative association found around the cable route, such as Mojave creosote bush scrub and desert saltbush scrub. The vegetation found in the cable right of way is often different than the general vegetative community identified in the project resource maps due to disturbance resultant from original cable installation and maintenance to date.

## Water Resources

This layer identifies the desert washes crossed by the project. There are no perennial water bodies crossed by the project. The coaxial cable route does cross the Colorado River and an associated wetland, but these areas are outside removal areas. The washes for the project area were identified from those indicated on the P140 'as-built' maps (see reference above) and those indicated on the USGS 7.5 minute topographic quad sheets for the project area and verified by Land Services, Inc.

## Road and Utility Crossings

This layer identifies roads and utilities crossed by the project route. The **road crossing layer** identified only those roads that are recognized by county and state agencies. The Mojave Desert contains numerous jeep trails, private roads, and other trails that are not recognized by transportation agencies and these are not indicated on the project resource maps. The **utility crossing layer** identified the aboveground and belowground utilities identified as crossed or directly adjacent to the project route. Both roads and utilities were identified through review of the P140 'as-built' maps (see reference above), USGS 7.5' topographic quads (see below), and consultation with transportation agencies in New Mexico, Nevada, and California. Utilities were not based on contacts with local utilities or utility locates in the field, and thus this layer should be considered preliminary.

1   **Access Corridor**

2   A dirt/gravel access corridor parallels the cable right of way across its length in California and Nevada. Several different  
3   layers of information are presented concerning this corridor. The **parallel road layer** identifies those areas where  
4   another public road parallel to the access corridor (i.e., within 0.5 mile) also provides access to the general area around  
5   the cable route. The **access corridor layer** identifies the location of the corridor relative to the cable route, whether  
6   north (N) or south (S). The **divergence layer** identifies those areas where the access corridor diverges more than  
7   50 feet from the cable route. These areas are identified with a notation as to the distance (e.g. 65 - 75') and direction  
8   (N/S) of the divergence. Because the access corridor is, for the most part, within 50 feet of the cable route, it was  
9   not possible to map the corridor separately. Information about the access corridor was developed based on field surveys  
10   conducted by DEA in June 1996 (DEA 1996), P140 'as-built' maps, and USGS 7.5' topographic quads for the project  
11   area.

1 **TOPOGRAPHIC QUAD MAPS**

2 The following USGS 7.5' 1:24,000 topographic quad maps were used to develop some of the resource layers presented  
3 on the project resource maps.

4 **Map**

5 **NEW MEXICO**

6 Luis Lopez 1982  
7 Socorro 1959, Photorevised 1979

8 **CALIFORNIA/NEVADA**

9 Mt. Manchester, CA-NV-AZ 1970, Photorevised 1983  
10 East of Homer Mtn, CA-NV Prov. 1984

11 **CALIFORNIA**

12 Homer Mtn. Prov. 1984  
13 Signal Hill Prov. 1984  
14 East of Grotto Hills Prov. 1984  
15 Grotto Hills Prov. 1984  
16 Pinto Valley Prov. 1983  
17 Mid Hills Prov. 1983  
18 Cima Prov. 1983  
19 Marl Mountains Prov. 1983  
20 Indian Spring Prov. 1983  
21 Seventeen Mile Point Prov. 1983  
22 Soda Lake North Prov. 1983  
23 West of Soda Lake Prov. 1983  
24 Crucero Hill Prov. 1983  
25 Cave Mountain Prov. 1986  
26 Dunn Prov. 1986  
27 Alvord Mountains East Prov. 1986  
28 Manix Prov. 1982, minor rev. 1993  
29 Harvard Hill Prov. 1982  
30 Yermo 1953, Photorevised 1970  
31 Nebo 1953, Photorevised 1970  
32 Barstow 1971, revised 1993  
33 Mud Hills Prov. 1988  
34 Water Valley Prov. 1988  
35 Lockhart Prov. 1986  
36 The Buttes Prov. 1986  
37 Saddleback Mtn. 1973  
38 Boron 1973  
39 North Edwards 1973  
40 California City South 1973  
41 Sanborn 1973, photoinspected 1980